

IPM

Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program

North Central Region

FY 2007 Request for Applications

Due Dates:

Letter of Intent: October 31, 2006

Application: November 30, 2006

Grants.gov program code: QQ.NC
Program code name: North Central IPM



U.S. Department of Agriculture



Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

FEDERALLY SPONSORED COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

REGIONAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM – NORTH CENTRAL REGION

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE: Projects awarded under Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq. can be found in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.500. Projects awarded under Section 2(c)(1)(B) of the Act of August 4, 1965, Public Law No. 89-106, as amended (7 U.S.C. 450i (c)(1)(B)) can be found in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.200.

DATES: A letter of intent to submit an application must be submitted electronically to: <http://www.ncipmc.org/egrants/> by close of business (COB) on October 31, 2006 (5:00 p.m. Central Time) in order to submit an application for consideration. An application will not be accepted if a letter of intent was not submitted in accordance with instructions in this Request for Applications (RFA). Applications must be received by Grants.gov by COB on November 30, 2006 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time). Applications received after this deadline will normally not be considered for funding. Comments regarding this RFA are requested within six months from the issuance of this notice. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), USDA is requesting comments regarding this RFA from any interested party. These comments will be considered in the development of the next RFA for the program, if applicable, and will be used to meet the requirements of section 103(c)(2) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613(c)(2)). This section requires the Secretary to solicit and consider input on a current RFA from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, education and extension for use in formulating future RFAs for competitive programs. Written stakeholder comments on this RFA should be submitted in accordance with the deadline set forth in the DATES portion of this Notice.

Written stakeholder comments should be submitted by mail to: Policy, Oversight, and Funds Management Branch; Office of Extramural Programs; CSREES-USDA; STOP 2299; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, DC 20250-2299; or via e-mail to: RFP-OEP@csrees.usda.gov. (This e-mail address is intended only for receiving comments regarding this RFA and not requesting information or forms.) In your comments, please state that you are responding to the fiscal year (FY) 2007 Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program RFA for the North Central Region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: CSREES requests applications for the Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program for FY 2007 to support the continuum of research and extension efforts needed to increase the implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) methods. The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports projects that develop

individual pest control tactics, integrate individual tactics into an IPM system, and develop and implement extension education programs. The program is administered by the land-grant university system's four regional IPM Centers (North Central, Northeastern, Southern, Western) in partnership with CSREES. In FY 2007, CSREES anticipates that approximately \$755,000 will be available for support of the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program - North Central Region (referred to herein as the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program). Of this amount, approximately \$500,000 is expected to be available for Research projects, \$78,000 for Extension projects and \$177,000 for Joint Research-Extension projects.

This notice identifies the objectives for NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program projects, the eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and the application forms and associated instructions needed to apply for a grant through this program. **For FY 2007, all proposals must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov. See Part IV for details.**

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PART I—FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Legislative Authority and Background

Authority for the funding of Research projects is contained in Section 2(c)(1)(B) of the Act of August 4, 1965, Public Law No. 89-106, as amended (7 U.S.C. 450i (c)(1)(B)). Authority for the funding of Extension projects is contained in Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq. For Joint Research-Extension applications (see Part II.C.3), separate awards will be executed for P.L. 89-106 and Smith-Lever funds.

The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports the continuum of research and extension efforts needed to increase the implementation of IPM methods. The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports projects that develop individual pest control tactics, integrate individual tactics into an IPM system, and develop and implement extension and education programs. The program is administered by the land-grant university system's four regional IPM Centers (North Central, Northeastern, Southern, Western) in partnership with CSREES.

The goal of the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program is to provide knowledge and information needed for the implementation of IPM methods that:

- (1) improve the economic benefits related to the adoption of IPM practices;
- (2) reduce potential human health risks from pests and the use of pest management practices; and
- (3) reduce unreasonable adverse environmental effects from pests and the use of pest management practices.

The program helps achieve this goal by increasing the supply and dissemination of IPM knowledge and by enhancing collaboration among stakeholders. Because the specific needs of each region vary, regional program priorities will vary.

B. Priorities and Requirements

The NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program provides support for the continuum of research and extension projects to increase the implementation of IPM. Projects may span the spectrum from development to implementation of new IPM tactics and systems to:

- (1) improve cost benefit analyses when adopting IPM practices;
- (2) reduce potential human health risks from pests and related management strategies; and
- (3) minimize adverse environmental effects from pests and related management strategies.

This program does not fund projects related to the development of vaccines. Applications must involve one of the following topics or a combination of them. All of the following areas of emphasis have equal priority.

Research Needs – See National Road Map for IPM (May 17, 2004):
<http://www.ncipmc.org/IPMRoadMap.pdf>

Research needs in IPM range from basic investigations of pest biology to the development of new pest management tactics. This grants program concentrates on many of the problem-solving aspects of IPM including (as identified in the National Roadmap for IPM).

- Develop advanced management tactics for specific settings (e.g., crops, parks, the home, the workplace) that prevent or avoid pest attack.
- Develop economical high-resolution environmental and biological monitoring systems to enhance our capabilities to predict pest incidence, estimate damage, and identify valid action thresholds.
- Develop new diagnostic tools, particularly for plant diseases and for detection of pesticide resistance in pest populations, including weeds.
- Improve action thresholds for vector borne diseases; provide mechanisms for local vector borne disease control agencies to adequately monitor pest populations to predict possible outbreaks and implement low risk approaches to prevent outbreak levels.
- Improve the efficiency of suppression tactics and demonstrate least-cost options and pest management alternatives.
- Develop new delivery methods designed to expand the options for IPM implementation.

Implementation and Adoption of IPM – See National Road Map for IPM (May 17, 2004):
<http://www.ncipmc.org/IPMRoadMap.pdf>

Agricultural producers, natural resource managers, and homeowners must voluntarily adopt IPM practices for these programs to reach their full potential and the public must have information to fully evaluate and understand these programs (as identified in the National Road Map for IPM). Options for consideration include:

- Develop user incentives for IPM adoption reflecting the value of IPM to society and reduced risks to users. Work with existing risk management programs including federal crop insurance, and incentive programs such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and other farm program payments to fully incorporate IPM tactics as rewarded practices.
- Provide educational opportunities for IPM specialists to learn new communication skills that enable them to engage new and unique audiences having specific language, location, strategy, or other special needs.
- Create public awareness and understanding of IPM programs and their economic, health and environmental impacts, through education programs in schools, colleges, and the workplace, and through creative use of mass media.

- Leverage federal resources with state and local public and private efforts to implement collaborative projects.
- Ensure a multi-directional flow of pest management information by expanding existing and developing new collaborative relationships with public and private sector cooperators.
- Spotlight successful IPM programs.

Each proposal must include an evaluation and measurement component (use of the Logic Model is strongly encouraged) to determine the impact of the project. For more information on the Logic Model please consult the following website:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pdande/evaluation/evallogicmodel.html>.

PART II—AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funding

There is no commitment by USDA to fund any particular application or to make a specific number of awards. In FY 2007, approximately \$755,000 is expected to be available to fund applications to the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program. Of this amount, approximately \$500,000 is expected to be available for Research projects, \$78,000 for Extension projects and \$177,000 for Joint Research-Extension projects.

The following application processing dates are approximate:

February 7-9, 2007	Peer Review Panel completes project evaluation
February 23, 2007	Notification of grant recommendations
March 2007	Grant processing by CSREES

The total budget for a Research project shall not exceed \$100,000. The total budget for an Extension project shall not exceed \$78,000. The total budget for a Joint Research-Extension project shall not exceed \$177,000.

B. Types of Applications

In FY 2007, NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program applications may be submitted as one of the following types of requests.

1. New Application

This is a project application that has not been previously submitted to the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program. All new applications will be reviewed competitively using the selection process and evaluation criteria described in Part V.

2. Renewal Application

This is a project application that requests additional funding for a project beyond the period approved in an original or amended award. Renewal applications must be received by the application due date, will be evaluated in competition with other pending applications in appropriate areas to which they are assigned, and will be reviewed according to the same evaluation criteria as new applications.

C. Project Types

The North Central IPM Center, on behalf of the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program, solicits applications for the following three types of projects in FY 2007. Applicants must indicate the type of project they are proposing. ***You must explicitly indicate the type of project you are***

proposing in two places on your application: on the Relevance Statement and on the Project Summary.

1. Research

Provides support for creating knowledge needed for the construction of pest management systems enabling the near-term development of practical pest management tactics, and exploration of interactions of tactics. Where possible, research should emphasize appropriate scale experiments that address multiple pests over more than one season or location. Long-term, fundamental research is not appropriate for funding in this program. Research involving chemical pesticides or application technology should be as a system component and be designed to reduce the amount of pesticide and/or frequency of applications or their impacts. Development of vaccines will not be funded. Applications should clearly demonstrate how the tactic or system, once developed, would be incorporated into a system, and subsequently into an operational program. **Projects may have a duration of up to three years. Please note that one- or two-year Research projects may be eligible for no-cost extensions after years one and two, but that no carryover or extension is permitted for these projects beyond three years. Any unexpended funds are lost. The total budget for a Research project shall not exceed \$100,000.**

2. Extension

These projects enhance outreach efforts that support the wide-scale implementation of IPM methods and maximize opportunities to build strategic alliances with industry and user groups to expand their active participation in increasing the adoption of IPM methods. Projects may be proposed to develop educational materials and information delivery systems, conduct demonstrations, or deliver IPM education and training. A research component is not a required element of extension applications, but the research base should be documented. **Projects may have a duration of up to three years. The total budget for an Extension project shall not exceed \$78,000.**

3. Joint Research-Extension

This application type provides support for projects that validate pest management systems research, introduce new pest management tactics and systems, and deliver these systems to appropriate clientele/users through IPM education and training programs. Applications should clearly demonstrate multi-organizational and multi-functional involvement between research and extension activities. **Projects may have a duration of up to three years. Please note that one- or two-year Joint Research-Extension projects may be eligible for no-cost extensions after years one and two, but that no carryover or extension is permitted for these projects beyond three years. Any unexpended funds are lost. The total budget for a Joint Research-Extension project shall not exceed \$177,000.**

PART III—ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

Organizations eligible to receive Research awards are: state agricultural experiment stations, land-grant colleges and universities, research foundations established by land-grant colleges and universities, colleges and universities receiving funds under the Act of October 10, 1962 (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), and accredited schools or colleges of veterinary medicine. For Research projects, eligible land-grant colleges and universities include all 1862, 1890, and 1994 land-grant institutions. Eligibility for Extension projects is limited to 1862 land-grant colleges and universities. Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply, provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project. An applicant's failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the time of an application deadline will result in CSREES returning the application without review or, even though an application may be reviewed, will preclude CSREES from making an award.

Research and extension personnel from other USDA/IPM regions (Northeastern, Southern, and Western) and other state and federal organizations can participate as members of project teams, but they cannot serve as sole PDs on a proposal submitted to the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program; i.e., the primary institution must be from one of the North Central Region states.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

There are no matching requirements associated with the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program, and matching resources will not be factored into the review process as evaluation criteria.

PART IV—APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. The Application Package

1. If you are a Project Director

DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY REGISTER. Project directors do not need to register with Grants.gov, unless they are authorized to submit an application on behalf of their organization. Applications to this RFA must be submitted electronically to Grants.gov by an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). Usually this individual works at a university's Grants and Contracts Office or Office of Sponsored Programs. Prior to preparing an application, contact your AOR to determine if your organization is registered to submit electronic applications through Grants.gov (most qualifying institutions in the North Central region are now registered) and how many days are needed to process your proposal.

To access application materials via Grants.gov, go to:

https://apply.grants.gov/forms_apps_idx.html and enter the funding opportunity number: USDA-CSREES-RIPM-000182.

Note that the Grants.gov application consists of specific forms supplemented by PDF (portable document file) attachments. In order to save a document as a PDF, the applicant will need to use PDF generator software. Grants.gov has published the following web page on tools and software that the applicant can use:

http://www.grants.gov/resources/download_software.jsp#pdf_conversion_programs.

For additional help on applying electronically, see:

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/electronic.html> and in particular the CSREES Grants.gov application guide.

2. If you are an Authorized Organizational Representative

Refer to: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp for steps for preparing to submit applications through Grants.gov. Note, Grants.gov works only with Internet Explorer 5.01 or higher, Netscape Communicator 4.5 – 4.8, Netscape 6.1, 6.2 or 7.

B. Content and Form of Letter of Intent and Application Submission

Content and Form of Letter of Intent

The letter of intent to submit an application must not exceed one page. It must include the project title, PD(s) name(s), full address(s), state(s) and participating institution(s), telephone number(s), fax number(s), **email address**, the type of project (Research only, Joint Research-Extension or Extension only), and a brief abstract of the proposed project. **Do not submit a budget with the letter of intent.** The purpose of this letter is to assist in peer panel identification and recruiting. It is not used in the application evaluation. It is expected that all people submitting a letter of intent will submit a full application. The PD(s), sequence of authors, and institutions listed within the

letter of intent should match those on the submitted proposal. An application will not be accepted if a letter of intent is not submitted in accordance with the instructions in the RFA.

Content and Form of Application Submission

Electronic applications should be prepared in accordance with the CSREES Grants.gov application guide entitled “[A Guide for Preparation and Submission of CSREES Applications via Grants.gov.](#)” This guide is part of the corresponding application package (see Section A. of this Part. The following is **additional information** needed in order to prepare an application in response to this RFA.

1. R&R Cover Sheet.

a. Estimated Project Funding (Field 16 on the Form).

Accurately include the amount requested from Research funds (P.L. 89-106) and/or Extension funds (Smith-Lever 3(d)).

2. R&R Other Project Information Form.

a. Project Summary/Abstract (Field 6 on the Form). It must be attached as a PDF document and have the following parts:

(i) Project Type (choose one): Research; Extension; or Joint Research-Extension.

(ii) Summary Statement. The first line of your summary should state the type of project you are submitting, for example, “This is a Research project” or “This is an Extension project.” For Joint Research-Extension projects, the summary statement must indicate how many dollars are being requested from each respective source (Smith-Lever funds are for extension, and P.L. 89-106 funds are for research). The summary should be a self-contained, specific description of the activity to be undertaken and should focus on: overall project goal(s) and supporting objectives; plans to accomplish project goal(s); and relevance of the project to the goals of North Central IPM Competitive Grants Program. (see Part I.B. 1-3).

b. Project Narrative (Field 7 on the Form).

Page limits for this section: Subsections (i) through (iii), combined, 12 pages. Subsection (iv), two pages.

Include all of the following in the Project Narrative:

(i) Background

Describe why current technologies and practices are inadequate and how the proposed approach will improve the pest management system. Identify the importance of the pest situations in economic, stakeholder, user or environmental terms.

(ii) Objectives

Provide a clear, complete and logically arranged set of project objectives and specific planned accomplishments. The research and/or extension objectives of the project must each be clearly defined and measurable.

(iii) Approach and Methodology

Identify the design, methods and analytical approach of the project including a timetable. For Joint Research-Extension applications, describe how the project will be managed, particularly how coordination between the research and extension components of the project will be achieved. Discuss plans to involve the private sector in the project and promote commercialization, where appropriate.

(iv) Cooperation and Institutional Units Involved

When appropriate, projects should be coordinated with the efforts of other state and national programs. Identify the role and responsibility of each institutional unit and/or state in a multiple-state application and designate the lead state. Indicate the involvement of relevant disciplines, agencies, and organizations, including research, extension, consultants, private sector, and producers. Collaboration with private-sector groups and organizations is encouraged (this section is not to exceed two pages).

c. Other Attachments (Field 11 on the Form).

(i) Relevancy Statement (attach as PDF. File name should indicate it is the relevancy statement).

Discuss the feasibility of improving IPM implementation and integration of tactics into a pest management system. Describe why this project is necessary. Please answer the “*So what?*” question. Providing evidence of stakeholder involvement in the application development is strongly encouraged. The procedures used to generate stakeholder involvement may be described in the relevancy statement.

(ii) Collaborative Arrangements (attach as PDFs). Formal consulting or collaborative arrangements with others should be fully explained and justified. If the consultant(s) or collaborator(s) are known at the time of application, vitae or resume should be provided. In addition, evidence (e.g., letter of support) should be provided that the collaborators involved have agreed to render these services. The applicant also will be required to provide additional information on consultants and collaborators in the budget portion of the application.

(iii) **Appendices to Project Narrative.** Appendices to the Project Narrative are allowed if they are directly germane to the proposed project. The addition of appendices should not be used to circumvent the text and/or figures and tables page limitations.

3. Budget.

Please note that indirect costs and tuition remission are not allowed. For further information, see Part IV.D.

a. A budget form is required for each year of requested support and another summing the requested support over all requested years. The R&R Subaward Budget Attachment described in section 6.1 of “[A Guide for Preparation and Submission of CSREES Applications via Grants.gov](#)” should be utilized to provide the information. Funds may be requested under any of the categories listed on the form, provided that the item or service for which support is requested is allowable under the authorizing legislation, the applicable statutes, regulations, and Federal cost principles, and these program guidelines, and can be justified as necessary for the successful conduct of the proposed project.

b. Budget Justification (Field K on the form; attach as a PDF).

Joint Research-Extension projects must show the proposed breakdown of amounts requested from P.L. 89-106 funds (Research) and Smith-Lever funds (Extension) for each year of funding being requested. Include cumulative project costs over all years, by cost category and funding source (Research and/or Extension).

For any subcontractors the budget justification must include a summary budget and a budget for each year as well as a budget justification (with the same detail as required for the grantee budget).

4. Supplemental Information Form.

a. Program to which you are applying (Field 2 on the Form). Enter the program code name “**North Central IPM**” and the program code **QQ.NC**. It is critical for the routing of this application that the program code be entered exactly as stated or the application may not be routed to the intended program.

C. Submission Dates and Times

Letters of intent must be submitted electronically to: <http://www.ncipmc.org/egrants/> by COB on October 31, 2006 (5:00 p.m. Central Time). An application will not be accepted if a letter of intent was not submitted in accordance with instructions in this RFA. Applications must be received by Grants.gov by COB on November 30, 2006 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time). Applications received after this deadline will normally not be considered for funding.

D. Funding Restrictions

CSREES has determined that grant funds awarded under this authority may not be used for the renovation or refurbishment of research, education, or extension space; the purchase or installation of fixed equipment in such space; or the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of buildings or facilities.

Pursuant to Section 1473 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1997 (91 Stat. 981), indirect costs and tuition remission are unallowable costs under Section 2(c)(1)(B) projects and Section 3 (d) of the Smith-Lever funded projects, and no funds will be approved for this purpose. Costs that are a part of the institution's indirect cost pool may not be reclassified as direct costs for the purpose of making them allowable.

E. Other Submission Requirements

1. Where to Submit

Letters of intent: Submit to <http://www.ncipmc.org/egrants/>. **Letters of intent transmitted by facsimile will not be accepted.**

Applications: Applications will be submitted to CSREES through Grants.gov. The applicant should follow the submission requirements noted in the document entitled "[A Guide for Preparation and Submission of CSREES Applications via Grants.gov](#)."

PART V—APPLICATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

A. General

Subsection (c)(5) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)), as amended by Section 212 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)(5)) requires grantees to arrange for scientific peer review of their proposed research activities and merit review of their proposed extension and education activities in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary prior to the Secretary making a grant award under this authority. The application review process conducted by the North Central IPM Center fulfills the scientific peer review and merit review requirements. Additional reviews by the submitting institutions are not necessary.

B. Evaluation Criteria

A peer review panel will handle the application review process at the regional level. The panel will consist of scientists from outside the North Central Region who will be selected to review, evaluate, score and rank the applications based on the following criteria:

1. Importance and relevance of the topic/program leading to the development of an implementable IPM program. For extension projects, materials fill an important outreach gap. Evidence has been provided that stakeholders were solicited for input in the formulation of application objectives and relevance assessment (Weight: 20%);
2. Appropriateness of objectives and scientific and/or education merit (objectives state who will accomplish what and when, objectives are measurable) (Weight: 20%);
3. Design and methodology (design is appropriate, units are stated, methods referenced, appropriate analysis, evaluation and measurement component) (Weight: 25%);
4. Feasibility of attaining objectives during the project, appropriateness of budget, probability of success, and potential for increasing IPM implementation and practice (Weight: 20%);
5. Involvement of relevant disciplines, agencies, and organizations including research, extension, consultants, private sector, and producers, as appropriate (Weight: 10%); and
6. Education and experience of the PDs. (Weight: 5%).

C. Conflicts of Interest and Confidentiality

During the peer evaluation process, extreme care will be taken to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may impact review or evaluation. For the purpose of determining conflicts of interest, the academic and administrative autonomy of an institution shall be determined by reference to the current Higher Education Directory, published by Higher Education Publications, Inc., 6400 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 648, Falls Church, Virginia 22042. Phone: (703) 532-2300. Web site: <http://www.hepinc.com>.

Names of submitting institutions and individuals, as well as application content and peer evaluations, will be kept confidential, except to those involved in the review process, to the extent permitted by law. In addition, the identities of peer reviewers will remain confidential throughout the entire review process. Therefore, the names of the reviewers will not be released to applicants.

D. Organizational Management Information

Specific management information relating to an applicant shall be submitted on a one-time basis as part of the responsibility determination prior to the award of a grant identified under this RFA, if such information has not been provided previously under this or another CSREES program. CSREES will provide copies of forms recommended for use in fulfilling these requirements as part of the pre-award process. Although an applicant may be eligible based on its status as one of these entities, there are factors that may exclude an applicant from receiving Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual involved or a determination that an applicant is not responsible based on submitted organizational management information).

PART VI—AWARD ADMINISTRATION

A. General

Within the limit of funds available for such purpose, the awarding official of CSREES shall make grants to those responsible, eligible applicants whose applications are judged most meritorious under the procedures set forth in this RFA. The date specified by the awarding official of CSREES as the effective date of the grant shall be no later than September 30 of the Federal fiscal year in which the project is approved for support and funds are appropriated for such purpose, unless otherwise permitted by law. It should be noted that the project need not be initiated on the grant effective date, but as soon thereafter as practical so project goals may be attained within the funded project period. All funds granted by CSREES under this RFA shall be expended solely for the purpose for which the funds are granted in accordance with the approved application and budget, the regulations, the terms and conditions of the award, the applicable Federal cost principles, and the Department's assistance regulations (parts 3015 and 3019 of 7 CFR). **NOTE: Beginning in fiscal year 2007 CRIS Forms AD-416 “Research Work Unit/Project Description-Research Resume” and AD-417 “Research Work Unit/Project Description-Classification of Research”, will apply to both the P.L. 89-106 and Smith-Lever 3(d) funds and will be requested if an application is identified for funding.**

B. Award Notice

The grant award document shall include at a minimum the following:

1. Legal name and address of performing organization or institution to whom the Administrator has awarded a grant under the terms of this request for applications;
2. Title of project;
3. Name(s) and institution(s) of PDs chosen to direct and control approved activities;
4. Identifying grant number assigned by the Department;
5. Project period, specifying the amount of time the Department intends to support the project without requiring recompetition for funds;
6. Total amount of Departmental financial assistance approved by the Administrator during the project period;
7. Legal authority(ies) under which the grant is awarded;
8. Appropriate Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number;
9. Applicable award terms and conditions (see to review CSREES award terms and conditions) <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html>;

10. Approved budget plan for categorizing allocable project funds to accomplish the stated purpose of the grant award; and

11. Other information or provisions deemed necessary by CSREES to carry out its respective granting activities or to accomplish the purpose of a particular grant.

C. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several Federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These include, but are not limited to:

7 CFR Part 1, subpart A—USDA implementation of the Freedom of Information Act.

7 CFR Part 3—USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-129 regarding debt collection.

7 CFR Part 15, subpart A—USDA implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

7 CFR Part 331 and 9 CFR Part 121—USDA implementation of the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002.

7 CFR Part 3015—USDA Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, implementing OMB directives (i.e., OMB Circular Nos. A-21 and A-122, now codified at 2 CFR Parts 220 and 230) and incorporating provisions of 31 U.S.C. 6301-6308 (formerly the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-224), as well as general policy requirements applicable to recipients of Departmental financial assistance.

7 CFR Part 3017—USDA implementation of Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants).

7 CFR Part 3018—USDA implementation of Restrictions on Lobbying. Imposes prohibitions and requirements for disclosure and certification related to lobbying on recipients of Federal contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and loans.

7 CFR Part 3019—USDA implementation of OMB Circular A-110, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations.

7 CFR Part 3052—USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-profit Organizations.

7 CFR Part 3407—CSREES procedures to implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.

29 U.S.C. 794 (section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973) and 7 CFR Part 15b (USDA implementation of statute)—prohibiting discrimination based upon physical or mental handicap in Federally assisted programs.

35 U.S.C. 200 et seq.—Bayh-Dole Act, controlling allocation of rights to inventions made by employees of small business firms and domestic nonprofit organizations, including universities, in Federally assisted programs (implementing regulations are contained in 37 CFR Part 401).

D. Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements

In addition to the reporting requirements identified in CSREES “Terms and Conditions” (which is provided to successful applicants as part of the award package), successful applicants will be required to submit a detailed yearly progress report and, upon completion of the project, a final technical report to the Grants Manager as well.

Progress reports should be no longer than 1.5 pages (12-point type or larger, one-inch margins). In the report, the PD will be expected to demonstrate that progress has been made on the project; to highlight important findings and recommendations made as a result of the project progress to date; to fully describe changes in objectives, procedures, and the time table for completion of the project; etc. Failure to submit a progress report will result in a recommendation to CSREES to reduce or terminate funding. The Grants Manager will contact the PD at the time the report is due; initial contact will be approximately one year after the grant starting date.

Final reports will be due 90 days after the project termination date. Final reports must be comprehensive and should include more data, figures, etc., than normally would occur in a typical refereed publication or extension publication.

PDs are required to acknowledge CSREES and the NC-IPM Competitive Grants Program in all publications or other products that result from funds that are awarded. Reprints or copies of all publications would be appreciated.

PART VII—PROGRAM CONTACT

Applicants and other interested parties are encouraged to contact:

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NC-IPM Grants Manager
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PART VIII—OTHER INFORMATION

A. Access to Review Information

Copies of reviews, not including the identity of reviewers, and a summary of the panel comments will be sent to the applicant PD after the review process has been completed.

B. Use of Funds; Changes

1. Delegation of Fiscal Responsibility

Unless the terms and conditions of the grant state otherwise, the grantee may not in whole or in part delegate or transfer to another person, institution, or organization the responsibility for use or expenditure of grant funds.

2. Changes in Project Plans

(a) The permissible changes by the grantee, PD(s), or other key project personnel in the approved project grant shall be limited to changes in methodology, techniques, or other similar aspects of the project to expedite achievement of the project's approved goals. If the grantee or the PD(s) is uncertain as to whether a change complies with this provision, the question must be referred to the Authorized Departmental Officer (ADO) for a final determination. The ADO is the signatory of the award document, not the program contact.

(b) Changes in approved goals or objectives shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such changes. In no event shall requests for such changes be approved which are outside the scope of the original approved project.

(c) Changes in approved project leadership or the replacement or reassignment of other key project personnel shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such changes.

(d) Transfers of actual performance of the substantive programmatic work in whole or in part and provisions for payment of funds, whether or not Federal funds are involved, shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such transfers, unless prescribed otherwise in the terms and conditions of the grant.

(e) The project period may be extended by CSREES without additional financial support, for such additional period(s) as the ADO determines may be necessary to complete or fulfill the purposes of an approved project, but in no case shall the total project period exceed three years for Research projects; five years for Extension projects; and three years for Joint Research-Extension projects as indicated in the terms and conditions. Any extension of time shall be conditioned upon prior request by the grantee and approval in writing by the ADO, unless prescribed otherwise in the terms and conditions of a grant. **Research and Joint Research-Extension projects (funded from P.L. 89-106) cannot be extended beyond the third year. Project periods should be sufficient to achieve objectives without exceeding three (3) years.**

PDs of three-year projects are advised to use available funds prior to the termination of the award.

(f) Changes in an approved budget must be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to instituting such changes if the revision will involve transfers or expenditures of amounts requiring prior approval as set forth in the applicable Federal cost principles, Departmental regulations, or grant award.

C. Confidential Aspects of Applications and Awards

When an application results in a grant, it becomes a part of the record of CSREES transactions, available to the public upon specific request. Information that the Secretary determines to be of a confidential, privileged, or proprietary nature will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by law. Therefore, any information that the applicant wishes to have considered as confidential, privileged or proprietary should be clearly marked within the application. The original copy of an application that does not result in a grant will be retained by the Agency for a period of three years. Other copies will be destroyed. Such an application will be released only with the consent of the applicant or to the extent required by law. An application may be withdrawn at any time prior to the final action thereon.

D. Regulatory Information

For the reasons set forth in the final Rule-related Notice to 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V (48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983), this program is excluded from the scope of the Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials. Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the collection of information requirements contained in this Notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0039.

E. Definitions

For the purpose of this program, the following definitions are applicable:

Administrator means the Administrator of CSREES and any other officer or employee of the Department to whom the authority involved is delegated.

Authorized departmental officer means the Secretary or any employee of the Department who has the authority to issue or modify grant instruments on behalf of the Secretary.

Authorized organizational representative means the president, director, or chief executive officer or other designated official of the applicant organization who has the authority to commit the resources of the organization.

Budget period means the interval of time (usually 12 months) into which the project period is divided for budgetary and reporting purposes.

Cash contributions means the applicant's cash outlay, including the outlay of money contributed to the applicant by non-Federal third parties.

Department or USDA means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Grant means the award by the Secretary of funds to an eligible organization or individual to assist in meeting the costs of conducting, for the benefit of the public, an identified project which is intended and designed to accomplish the purpose of the program as identified in these guidelines.

Grantee means the organization designated in the grant award document as the responsible legal entity to which a grant is awarded.

Peer reviewers means experts or consultants qualified by training and experience in particular field of science, education, or technology to give expert advice on the scientific and technical merit of grant applications on the relevance of those applications to one or more of the application evaluation criteria. Peer reviewers may be ad hoc or convened as a panel.

Prior approval means written approval evidencing prior consent by an authorized departmental officer.

Project means the particular activity within the scope of the program supported by a grant award.

Project director (PD) means the single individual designated by the grantee in the grant application and approved by the Secretary who is responsible for the direction and management of the project.

Project period means the period, as stated in the award document, during which Federal sponsorship begins and ends.

Secretary means the Secretary of Agriculture and any other officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture to whom the authority involved is delegated.

USDA means the United States Department of Agriculture.

F. CSREES' Grants.gov Implementation Plans

CSREES is continuing to develop its capacity to exchange proposal and grant data electronically with its grantees through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and to process, review, and award proposals and grants electronically.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2006, CSREES offered an electronic application option for select grant programs and partnered with five institutions to use Grants.gov Apply. CSREES utilized the SF-424 R&R (Research and Related) forms package (see 70 FR 9656, published in the Federal Register on February 28, 2005) along with CSREES Agency-specific forms and instructions to

receive the electronic applications. These pilot activities were successful and provided lessons for applicants and CSREES.

As a result, for the FY 2007 (October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007) cycle, CSREES is requiring electronic submission through Grants.gov for some programs while providing a Grants.gov option for others. Please visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/fy07changes.html> for information about FY 2007 submission requirements by program. For more information about CSREES' Grants.gov plans, including important announcements, program implementation, and detailed requirements, see the CSREES' web site, http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/other_links/egov/egov.html. The information on these web sites will be updated as appropriate. It is suggested that the sites be visited periodically for important updates. **All proposals submitted under this RFA must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov.**

G. DUNS Number

A Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of over 70 million businesses worldwide. A Federal Register notice of final policy issuance (68 FR 38402) requires a DUNS number in every application (i.e., hard copy and electronic) for a grant or cooperative agreement (except applications from individuals) submitted on or after October 1, 2003. Therefore, potential applicants to this RFA should obtain the DUNS number from their authorized organizational representative. They should not ask for or create a separate DUNS number.

AORs can obtain information about how to obtain a DUNS number from <http://www.grants.gov/RequestaDUNS>. Please note that the registration may take up to 14 business days to complete.

H. Required Registration for Grants.gov

The Central Contract Registry (CCR) is a database that serves as the primary Government repository for contractor information required for the conduct of business with the Government. This database will also be used as a central location for maintaining organizational information for organizations seeking and receiving grants from the Government. Such organizations must register in the CCR prior to the submission of applications via grants.gov (a DUNS number is needed for CCR registration). For information about how to register in the CCR visit "Get Registered" in the web site, <http://www.grants.gov>. Allow a minimum of 5 days to complete the CCR registration.